

#### SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

Governor's Council on Food Security April 28, 2015



**Summer Food Rocks!** 

# **HISTORY**

- 2015 marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the federally funded Summer Food Service Program.
- The SFSP was created to "fill the gap" by providing meals to needy children during summer vacation.
- For many children school breakfast and school lunch are the only meals that they eat during the day.



Open Park Site Food Bank of Northern Nevada

#### **NEVADA**

- SFSP in Nevada has not kept up with the huge increase in population.
- The biggest gap is in Clark County where the number of children qualifying for free and reduced price meals continues to grow with over 58% (186,717) of the Clark County School District enrollment eligible for free and reduced price meals in 2014–15.
- Northern Nevada still has room to increase meal sites and participation but the gap is not as wide.

# **TOTAL MEALS**

YEAR 2010	SPONSORS 30	SITES 109	BREAKFAST 109,949	307,693	39,335	TOTAL MEALS 456,977
2012	31	127	109,895	317,094	19,944	446,933
2013	37	175	136,418	339,578	13,596	489,592
2014	36	247	174,067	371,173	16,266	561,506

### CHALLENGES

In order to increase participation, the following are needed:

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more sponsors
more sites
more extensive outreach (media and school
districts)
support/endorsement from elected officials
collaboration with community partners
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### ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES

- USDA State Targeted Assistance Project
- Started in FY13 to assist states in expanding their SFSP
- Nevada joined the project in FY14
- USDA provided a technical assistance team to assist states in increasing participation by increasing the number of sponsors and meal sites

#### 2014 Technical Assistance

- Formed statewide SFSP partner group invited local governments, SFSP sponsors, USDA Rural development, state and local elected officials, school district representatives, advocacy groups
- Wrote and implemented a Nevada State Summer Meal Plan
- USDA representatives contacted state and local elected officials to encourage support of SESP

- USDA Undersecretary Kevin Concannon attend SFSP kick-off event in Las Vegas
- USDA provided contact information for possible partners: HUD; Farm Service Agency; Let's Move Cities, Towns and Counties and more
- USDA WRO communications office provide assistance with press releases.



# WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE

- ▶ 2015 SFSP Partner Group met in January
- Nevada State Summer Meals Plan has been revised and updated with new goals
- Continue to receive assistance from USDA to increase participation
- Reaching out to school districts, tribes, and faith based organizations
- Working with established sponsors to increase participation by adding more meal sites and expanding outreach

- We can never do too much. As long as there are hungry children, there will be a need for the Summer Food Service Program.
- USDA national participation goal for 2015:
   200 Million meals (7.5% increase)

NEVADA 2015 PARTICIPATION GOAL: 56,000 (10% INCREASE)

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